

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SIG-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 215922

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PDEV, SF, WA, RH

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR CALLS ON ASSISTANT
SECRETARY MOOSE

1. SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR SOLE CALLED, AT THIS REQUEST,
ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE AUGUST 21 FOR A GENERAL
DISCUSSION OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENTS. KAISER
AND NACH OF AF/S ALSO ATTENDED.

2. HIGHLIGHTS FOLLOW:
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A. RHODESIA; AFTER MOOSE COMMENTED THAT THE ALL-PARTIES
MEETING WAS BECOMING MORE LIKELY, SOLE SUGGESTED THAT THE
FIRST OBJECTIVE SHOULD BE TO ARRANGE A SMITH-NKOMO MEETING.
SMITH, SOLE SAID, IS "THE ONLY CATALYST THERE IS". ACCORD-
ING TO THE AMBASSADOR, THE UK AND US SHOULD BRING NKOMO
INTO ANY SETTLEMENT ("FOR STABILITY") AND REMAINING
PROBLEMS, INCLUDING MUGABE, WOULD "TAIL OFF". MOOSE

POINTED OUT THAT WE BELIEVED THE FRONT LINE WANT MAJORITY RULE AND WOULD SUPPORT A FAIR SETTLEMENT PLAN. HOWEVER, THE FRONT LINE IS EQUALLY WORRIED ABOUT A "SETTLEMENT" WHICH WOULD BE A PRESCRIPTION FOR CIVIL WAR.

B. NAMIBIA: SOLE WARNED THAT CONTINUED LOSS OF LIFE RESULTING FROM SWAPO-INITIATED INCIDENTS WAS CAUSING A BUILD UP OF PRESSURES WITHIN THE SAG FOR ANOTHER STRIKE

AT SWAPO BASES. WALDHEIM'S STATEMENT URGING RESTRAINT HAD BEEN USEFUL, HE SAID, BUT THE US SHOULD COMMUNICATE ITS CONCERN TO SWAPO. MOOSE TOLD SOLE OF THE CONTACT GROUP MESSAGES TO ALL THE PARTIES AND OF OUR BILATERAL APPROACH TO THE ANGOLANS. THE AMBASSADOR COMMENTED THAT THE SAG KNEW THE ANGOLANS WERE CONCERNED BUT DOUBTED THE NETO GOVERNMENT WOULD BE ABLE TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.

C. US-SOUTH AFRICAN ECONOMIC RELATIONS: QUERIED BY MOOSE ON THE SOUTH AFRICAN REACTION TO THE RECENT CONGRESSIONAL HEARING ON US-SA ECONOMIC RELATIONS, SOLE SAID THE SAG INTERPRETED IT AS AN INITIATIVE BY AMERICAN LIBERALS. HOWEVER, THE AMBASSADOR SAID, THE SAG WAS MAINLY CONCERNED ABOUT ANTI-SOUTH AFRICAN AGITATION IN THE US WHICH WAS CAUSING SOME AMERICAN EXECUTIVES TO DECIDE IT WAS NOT WORTH THE TROUBLE TO DO BUSINESS IN SOUTH AFRICA. SOLE NOTED (AND SAID HE REGRETTED) THAT THE US-SA BALANCE OF TRADE PICTURE HAD CHANGED SINCE 1977 WITH US IMPORTS

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EXCEEDING US EXPORTS. HE CLAIMED THE EUROPEANS AND JAPANESE WERE NOW TAKING UP THE TRADE SLACK.

D. CROSSROADS SQUATTER SETTLEMENT: AFTER MOOSE EXPRESSED US CONCERN AT IMPENDING DEMOLITION OF CROSSROADS, SOLE SAID THAT WITH WINTER ENDING THE SLUM WOULD HAVE TO BE "CLEARED UP" AND ITS INHABITANTS HOUSED ELSEWHERE. ADMITTING THAT "HARDSHIP IS INVOLVED" FOR CROSSROADS RESIDENTS, THE AMBASSADOR SAID HE HAD NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT THE LIKELIHOOD OF AMERICAN CRITICISM AND HAD REPORTED THE MATTER TO PRETORIA TO ENSURE THAT THE SAG HAD THE "CORRECT FLAVOR".

E. MAHLANGU CASE: SOLE WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH MAHLANGU'S PRECISE ROLE IN THE "GOCH STREET MASSACRE" BUT SAID HE WOULD CONVEY OUR REQUEST FOR CLEMENCY TO PRETORIA. HE SPECULATED THAT THERE WOULD NOT BE MUCH SYMPATHY FOR CLEMENCY IN SA BECAUSE OF THE NATURE OF THE CRIME, OF WHICH MAHLANGU, UNDER LAW, WAS AS CULPABLE AS THOSE WHO HAD DONE THE FIRING.

F. SOWETO: DURING A DISCUSSION OF RACE RELATIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA, SOLE SAID THAT SOWETO SHOULD BE MADE INTO A "CITY-STATE" AND COULD NO LONGER BE "A DORMITORY". THE

USG COULD HELP, HE SAID, BY PROVIDING LOAN GUARANTEES SO THAT FUNDS COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR SOWETO'S ELECTRIFICATION. REGARDING EDUCATION IN SOWETO AND ELSEWHERE, SOLE SAID THAT THE SAG PLANNED TO PROVIDE FREE, UNIVERSAL EDUCATION FOR ALL BLACK CITIZENS BY 1985--EARLIER IN URBAN AREAS.

3. SOLE SAID HE PLANS TO LEAVE ABOUT SEPTEMBER 1 FOR TWO MONTHS OF HOME LEAVE AND CONSULTATIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA. CHRISTOPHER

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